

CLAIMS

What we claim is:

- 5 1. A method of delivering data to any of two or more data-handling devices having different data handling capabilities, the method comprising the steps of:
 - i: structuring an initial portion of the data to provide at least a preferred and an alternative version of the initial portion of the data, each
10 version suitable to make the data suitable for handling by at least one of the at least two data-handling devices;
 - ii: storing the versions of the initial portions of the data; and
 - iii: upon receipt of a request for data, adapting one of the preferred or alternative version of the initial portions of the data by augmenting the
15 initial portion of the data with dynamically generated data and delivering the initial portion of the data augmented with the dynamically generated data to at least one data-handling device.
- 20 2. A method according to Claim 1 which further comprises an initial step of authoring and storing the initial portion of the data and processing this stored initial portion to generate the at least the preferred and alternative versions of the initial portion of data.
- 25 3. A method according to Claims 1 in which the dynamic data is generated from any one or more of the following: a database; a newsfeed; any suitable store of machine-readable data.
- 30 4. A method according to any of Claims 1 in which the method determines with which version of the initial portion of the data the dynamically generated data fits most appropriately and augments that version with the dynamic data.

5. A method according to Claim 1 which uses a model of the dynamic data in order to generate the versions of the initial portion of the data.

6. A method according to Claim 1 which ensures that there is at least
5 one version of the initial portion of the data that is suitable to augment with the dynamic data to create data that is suitable to send to a data-handling device having the lowest capabilities that can receive data.

7. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the alternative version of the
10 initial portion of the data is structured to accommodate a different amount of dynamic data than the preferred version of the initial portion of the data.

8. A multi-stage adaptation method for adapting data for any of at least two data-handling devices having different data handling capabilities, the
15 method comprising:

i: in an off-line stage, adapting an initial portion of the data in a preferred layout and at least one alternative layouts; and

ii: in an on-line stage, upon a receipt of a request for data adapting the initial portion in one of the preferred and the alternative layouts with
20 dynamically generated data.

9. A multi-stage adaptation method for generating data for any of at least two data-handling devices having different data handling capabilities, the method comprising:

25 i: in a first stage generating an initial portion of the data in a preferred format and at least one alternative formats; and

ii: in a second stage, upon a receipt for a request for data, augmenting the initial portion in the one of the preferred format and one of the alternative formats with dynamically generated data.

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10. A method of delivering data to any of at least two data-handling devices having different data handling capabilities, the method comprising

the step of:

- i: structuring an initial portion of the data to provide at least a preferred and an alternative version of the initial portion of the data, each version suitable to make the data suitable for handling by at least one of the
- 5 at least two data-handling devices;
- ii: storing the versions of the initial portions of the data;
- iii: accepting payment from a user of one of said one or more data-handling devices, the user requesting data; and
- iv: upon accepting the payment, adapting one of the preferred or
- 10 alternative version of the initial portions of the data by augmenting the initial portion of the data with dynamically generated data and delivering the initial portion of the data augmented with the dynamically generated data to said one of said one or more data-handling devices.

- 15 11. A method of disseminating media data, hosted at a site within an information technology network, to one of a plurality of different classes of device connected to the network, the different classes of device having different capabilities for manifesting the data, the method comprising the steps of:

- 20 i: authoring the data by at least structuring the data in a manner which is independent of device on which the data is to be manifested;
- ii: adapting the authored data to generate at least a preferred and an alternative adapted version of the authored data to make the data suitable for manifestation on a given class of device;
- 25 iii: storing the adapted data at a location within the network; and
- iv: upon receipt of a request for a copy of the data, augmenting at least one of the versions of the adapted data with dynamic data and delivering the adapted data augmented with the dynamically generated data to at least one data-handling device.

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12. A method according to Claim 11 in which the method determines with which version of the initial portion of the data the dynamically

generated data fits most appropriately and augments that version with the dynamic data.

13. A method of delivering data to any of at least two data-handling
5 devices having different data handling capabilities, the method comprising the steps of:

i: authoring and storing an initial portion of the data

ii: processing the stored initial portion of the data to provide at least
a preferred and an alternative layout version of the initial portion of the
10 data, each layout version suitable to make the data suitable for handling by
at least one of the at least two data-handling devices;

iii: storing the layout versions of the initial portions of the data; and

iv: upon receipt of a request for data, determining with which of the
preferred or alternative layout versions of the initial portion of the data the
15 dynamically generated data fits most appropriately and augmenting that
layout version with dynamically generated data and delivering the initial
portion of the data augmented with the dynamically generated data to at
least one of the at least two data-handling devices.

20 14. A method according to Claim 13 which uses a model of the dynamic
data in order to generate the versions of the initial portion of the data.

15. A method of delivering data to any of at least two data-handling
devices having different data handling capabilities, the method comprising
25 the steps of:

i: structuring an initial portion of the data to provide at least a
preferred and an alternative version of the initial portion of the data, each
version suitable to make the data suitable for handling by at least one of the
at least two data-handling devices;

30 ii: storing the versions of the initial portions of the data; and

iii: upon receipt of a request for data, adapting one of the preferred
or alternative version of the initial portions of the data by augmenting the

initial portion of the data with dynamically generated data and delivering the initial portion of the data augmented with the dynamically generated data to at least one data-handling device,

wherein, said structuring uses a model of the dynamic data in order
5 to generate the preferred and alternative versions of the initial portion of the data.

16. A method according to Claim 11 in which the method determines with which version of the initial portion of the data the dynamically
10 generated data fits most appropriately and augments that version with the dynamic data.

17. A method according to Claim 11 which ensures that there is at least one version of the initial portion of the data that is suitable to augment with
15 the dynamic data to create data that is suitable to send to a data-handling device having the lowest capabilities that can receive the data.

18. A method according to Claim 11 in which the dynamic data is generated from any one or more of the following: a database; a newsfeed; any suitable
20 store of machine-readable data.

19. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the alternative version of the initial portion of the data is structured to accommodate a different amount of dynamic data than the preferred version of the initial portion of the data.
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20. A computing device capable of delivering data to any of at least two data-handling devices having different data handling capabilities, the computing device comprising a receiving means for receiving a request for data, a transmitting means for transmitting data, a processing means for
30 processing data and a storage means for storing data said storage means being arranged to hold at least an initial portion of the data as a preferred and an alternative version, and further the computing device being arranged

such that when the receiving means receives a request for data the processing means is arranged to augment one of the preferred or alternative version of the initial portion of the data with dynamically generated data and send the initial portion of the data augmented with the dynamic data to
5 the transmitting means which is arranged to transmit said initial portion of the data augmented with the dynamic data to a data-handling device.

21. A network arranged to be capable of delivering data to any of at least two data-handling devices having different data handling capabilities,
10 the network having a server, the server comprising:

a network adapter for receiving a request for data and transmitting data;

a processing unit arranged to process data; and

a memory for storing data, said memory being arranged to hold at
15 least an initial portion of the data as a preferred and an alternative version,

the server being arranged such that when the network adapter receives a request for data the processing unit augments one of the preferred and alternative versions of the initial portion of the data with dynamically generated data and sends the initial portion of the data
20 augmented with the dynamic data to the network adapter which is arranged to transmit said initial portion of the data augmented with the dynamic data to a data-handling device.

22. A server arranged for generating data for any of at least two data-
25 handling devices having different data handling capabilities, the server comprising:

means for generating off-line an initial portion of the data in a preferred format and at least one alternative formats;

means for augmenting on-line, in response to a request for data, the
30 initial portion in the preferred or an alternative format with dynamically generated data.

23. A data-handling device capable of communicating with a computing device and/or network and receiving data therefrom, the data-handling device being arranged to communicate a parameter such that a method according to Claim 1 can be applied to the data that is sent to the data-handling device.

24. A data handling device, according to Claim 23, wherein the parameter is any one of the following: the identity of the device, the model of the device, the data-handling capabilities of the device.

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25. A machine-readable medium containing instructions which when read by a computing device cause that computing device substantially to perform the method of Claim 1.

15 26. A machine-readable medium containing instructions which when read by a computing device cause that computing device to function substantially as the computing device of Claim 20.

27. A machine-readable medium containing instructions which when read by a computing device of a network cause that network to function substantially according to Claim 21.

28. A machine-readable medium containing instruction which when read by a data-handling device cause that data-handling device to function substantially as the data-handling device according Claim 23.